

FILED

Date _____

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Comm. Amdt. _____

AMENDMENT NO. _____

Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. _____ **House Bill No.** _____ **584**

by deleting all language following the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

Section 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 13-27-202, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires, "small and medium-sized businesses or companies" means those companies or farms with sales not exceeding twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000), seeking to enter foreign markets.

Section 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 13-27-203(3), is amended by adding the following new subdivisions:

(E) Farmer with export experience; and

(F) Agribusiness export trading operation.

Section 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 13-27-204, is amended by deleting items (1), (2) and (3) in their entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(1) Serve as an advocate for promoting and obtaining programs and services that will enable small and medium-sized companies and farms to enter and compete in foreign markets and disseminate pertinent information to the business, agricultural, and financial community;

(2) Receive reports from export trade office of the department of economic and community development and the division of marketing of the department of agriculture;

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(3) Provide for a mutual exchange of ideas and information on international, national, state and local level and attempt to make Tennessee products competitive in international markets by encouraging efforts in education, finance, insurance, transportation, and promotion;

Section 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 13-27-205, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

The director of the export trade office of the department of economic and community development shall serve as executive secretary to the advisory council. The director of the division of marketing of the department of agriculture shall assist the executive secretary in his assigned responsibilities relative to the advisory council.

Section 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 13-27-206, is amended by deleting subsection (b) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(b) The advisory council is administratively attached to the department of economic and community development, but for all purposes other than administration is considered independent.

Section 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 13-27-207, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

The commissioners of the department of economic and community development and department of agriculture are urged to seek additional funding

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resources and to create additional positions within the export trade office and the division of marketing to implement a sound comprehensive export development strategy, which will include the addition of export trade specialists. Such strategy includes the elements of education, counseling, promotion, and interagency cooperative efforts.

Section 7. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.